

**Communicable Disease Epidemiology
and Immunization Section**

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**Health Advisory: CDC Modifies Enhanced Entry Screening for Travelers from Guinea: No
Travelers from West Africa Currently Need to be Actively Monitored for Ebola – 30 DEC 2015**

Action requested:

- Be aware that on December 29, 2015, WHO declared Guinea free of Ebola virus transmission.
- As per CDC, travelers from Guinea no longer need to be actively monitored for Ebola by public health departments.
- See current guidance from CDC at the links below.

Background: On December 29, 2015, WHO declared Guinea free of Ebola virus transmission after 42 days had passed since the last patient with Ebola tested laboratory-negative twice. The country has now entered a 90-day period of heightened surveillance. Travelers from Guinea will continue to enter the U.S. through one of the designated U.S. airports conducting enhanced entry screening. However, CDC no longer recommends active monitoring for travelers arriving from Guinea. Travelers coming from Guinea will still undergo exit screening before leaving the country. Upon entry to the US, travelers will answer questions about travel history and possible exposures to Ebola. They will also provide contact information so that the health department at their destination can connect with them, if needed. Travelers from Guinea will receive information about Ebola, a thermometer, and contact information for state and local health departments. CDC recommends these travelers watch their health for 21 days after leaving Guinea, and to contact their state or local health department or seek health care if they develop fever or any other symptoms that might be consistent with Ebola.

Enhanced entry screening and funneled entry to the U.S. through designated airports was previously discontinued for travelers coming to the U.S. from Sierra Leone and Liberia. CDC recommends travelers coming from Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea watch their health for fever or other symptoms of Ebola for 21 days after leaving the country and their health department or seek health care if symptoms develop during this time. Healthcare facilities should use their standard infection control practices and procedures for evaluation of travelers from Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia with symptoms compatible with Ebola infection unless the history suggests a possible exposure to Ebola virus – see link below.

Additional information

Current CDC Guidance for evaluating travelers

- <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/evaluating-patients/evaluating-travelers.html>

ED Guidance for evaluation and management of patients who lived in or traveled to West Africa in the previous 21 days

- <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ed-doctors.pdf>

Complete CDC Healthcare facility Ebola guidance

- <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/index.html>